

**JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION (JOFOC)
FOR EXTENSION OF LABORATORY OF TERRESTRIAL PHYSICS SUPPORT
SERVICES**

1. This document is a justification for other than full and open competition prepared by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA's GSFC):

NASA's GSFC proposes to increase the contract value and extend the period of performance under contract number NAS5-02041 with Science Systems and Applications, Incorporated (SSAI). This document justifies the determination for using other than full and open competition for this procurement action.

2. The nature and/or description of the action being approved:

Contract number NAS5-02041 was competed as a small business set-aside and awarded on December 19, 2003 to SSAI, with a 5-year period of performance, from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2007. Modification #83 was issued to increase the value of the contract [text deleted] and extend the period of performance through June 30, 2008 [text deleted]. Modification #94 increased the value of the contract [text deleted], extended the period of performance through December 31, 2008, and incorporated three 1-month options [text deleted]. All options have been exercised, thus, [text deleted] the period of performance ends March 31, 2009. This contract is a cost-plus-award-fee, mission type contract. This procurement action will increase the contract value and extend the period of performance for a minimum of 2 months and maximum of 6 months [text deleted] and provide uninterrupted support services to the Hydrospheric and Biospheric Sciences (HBS) Laboratory (formerly known as the Laboratory for Terrestrial Physics) until the follow-on competitive contract can be awarded.

[text deleted].

An initial 2-month extension will be from April 1, 2009 through May 31, 2009, followed by four 1-month option periods from June 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009. [text deleted]. Extending the contract will allow NASA's GSFC to adequately evaluate offers, make contract award, and allow a 30-day phase-in period to avoid interruption of the necessary services being provided.

3. Description of the supplies or services required, including an estimated value:

This acquisition provides support in the following areas: 1) science research; 2) computing; 3) science instrumentation; 4) administration; and 5) calibration and validation. Specific work elements within the above areas are described as follows: hypothesis verification, modeling and simulation; computing and network, science processing operations; mechanical engineering, electronic design, laser and electro-optical design, laboratory and field experiments; education and outreach, technical writing, media development; algorithm and software development, data analysis and validation, logistics and reporting.

This cost increase to the contract value of contract number NAS5-02041 is for labor and materials that are required to meet critical milestones until a follow-on performance-based contract is awarded. [text deleted].

4. Statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition:

The statutory authority for other than full and open competition for this contract is 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(1)—Only One Responsible Source.

5. A demonstration that the proposed contractor's unique qualifications or the nature of the acquisition requires use of the authority cited:

The cost increase will allow NASA's GSFC to complete the following critical milestones:

- 1) Complete the Collection 5.1 reprocessing of Moderate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Atmospheres: Aerosol products and Level 3 combined products.
- 2) Complete software integration and testing of the improved MODIS land surface reflectance products with coarse resolution input products.
- 3) Complete development of Level 3 (gridded) diagnostic data record products and integrate into MODIS Adaptive Processing System (MODAPS) for quality assessment of the Visible-Infrared Imager Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument.
- 4) Complete end-to-end testing of the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System Preparatory Project (NPP) VIIRS Land Product Evaluation and Algorithm Test Element (PEATE) with other elements of the NPP Science Data Segment.
- 5) Complete integration of new builds of VIIRS operational software into MODAPS.
- 6) Support the VIIRS Land PEATE's portion of the Missions Operations Review of the NPP Project.
- 7) Complete development of the MODIS Near Real-Time Processing System for MODIS and Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer – Earth Observing System.

SSAI is the only company with the capability of providing the technical support without a reduction in service. Any other contractor would be required to (1) train operations staff in the procedures established for the generation of global MODIS products; (2) learn the MODAPS software for producing science products in an automated fashion, the MODIS, the Level 1 and Atmosphere and Archive Distribution System software for archiving and distributing MODIS and Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer products, Land and Atmosphere quality assessment tools for product quality assessment to a sufficient technical level to be able to make improvements and bug fixes to over 700,000 lines of C, C++ and Fortran source code in these systems as a result of problems identified in product quality or new requirements from the science community; and (3) hire an adequate number of staff from the limited pool of specialized scientists and software developers who have experience

in the production, archiving, distribution and evaluation of global satellite to meet the milestones listed above.

6. Description of the efforts made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as practicable, including whether a notice was or will be publicized as required by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 5.202:

This procurement was published February 24, 2009 on NASA's Acquisition Internet Service (NAIS) and synopsisized in the Government-wide Point of Entry in accordance with FAR Subpart 5.201, in order to inform potential sources of NASA's intent to award this effort to SSAI and to provide them with the opportunity to be considered based on their qualifications and capabilities. The synopsis response date was March 11, 2009.

7. A determination by the contracting officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable:

The Contracting Officer will perform a comprehensive evaluation of SSAI's proposal(s) to ensure that the anticipated cost is fair and reasonable. [text deleted].

8. Description of the market research conducted, and the results, or a statement of the reasons market research was not conducted:

Market survey activities have been conducted for contract number NAS5-02041 follow-on competitive, small business set-aside award. Assigned procurement and technical personnel have conducted information interchange meetings with organizations interested in the follow-on competition. NASA does not believe any alternate sources can (within this limited timeframe) take on full contract responsibility without risk of an unacceptable delay to the critical milestones noted above. A competitive, small business set-aside, performance-based contract shall be awarded by the end of this extension.

9. Other facts supporting the use of other than full and open competition:

An interim competitive solicitation and potential replacement of the incumbent by a new contractor introduces risks to the completion of critical milestones. The phase-in time and lead time for new contractor personnel to become minimally experienced and functional to meet Government requirements will result in unacceptable delays in milestone schedules. Although a new contractor is likely to seek to employ a significant fraction of the experts employed by the incumbent, their probability of success in doing so for an interim contract of short duration is low. [text deleted].

10. Sources, if any, that expressed an interest, in writing, in the acquisition:

As stated above, this procurement was published on NAIS and synopsisized in the Government-wide Point of Entry on February 24, 2009 and closed March 11, 2009. There were no responses received from interested sources.

11. The actions the Agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to competition before any subsequent acquisition for the supplies or services required:

NASA expects to overcome the barriers to competition through its acquisition planning leading up to the competition and contract award. This JOFOC will authorize sufficient time for transition to a new contract without a discontinuity in service.